

2021 Creative Writing Exam Reading Lists

Fiction

Kate Bernheimer, "Fairy Tale is Form, Form is Fairy Tale," from *The Writer's Notebook: Craft Essays* from Tin House
Eudora Welty, *The Eye of the Story*
Susan Sontag, "On Style" from *Against Interpretation*
Donald Barthelme, "Not-Knowing" from *Not Knowing: The Essays and Interviews of Donald Barthelme*
John C. Gardner, *The Art of Fiction*
George Plimpton and Margaret Atwood, *Women Writers at Work: The Paris Review Interviews*, 3rd edition
Francine Prose, *Reading Like A Writer*
Jane Smiley, *13 Ways of Looking at the Novel*
James Baldwin, "The Art of Fiction Interview. No 78" In *Paris Review*
Samuel Delany, *About Writing*
Raymond Carver, ed. *American Short Story Masterpieces*
Anthony Doerr and Heidi Pitlor, *Best American Short Stories 2019*
Laura Furman, *The O. Henry Prize Stories 100th Anniversary Edition (2019)*
Ben Marcus, ed. *New American Stories*

Nonfiction/Memoir

Adrienne Rich, "When We Dead Awaken", in *On Lies, Secrets, and Silence*
Jhumpa Laniri, *In Other Words*
Claudia Rankine, *Citizen*
bell hooks, *Remembered Rapture*
David Foster Wallace, "Consider the Lobster"
Charles Johnson, "I Call Myself an Artist" in *I Call Myself an Artist*, edited by Rudolph P. Byrd
Margot Singer and Nicole Walker, eds. *Bending Genre*
"The Invention of Autobiography," in Patricia Hampl, *I Could Tell You Stories*
Karen Tei Yamashita, *Letters to Memory*
Ta-Nehisi Coates, *Between The World and Me*
Roland Barthes, *RB RB*
Michael Downs, "Me, Myself, I: Idiosyncrasy and Structure in Nonfiction" in *Triquarterly*
Jesmyn Ward, *Men We Reaped*
Ander Monson, "The Designed Essay: Design as Essay"
Jonathan Lethem, "The Ecstasy of Influence"
Philip Lopate, editor, *The Art of the Personal Essay*
John D'Agata, ed. *The Next American Essay*
George Orwell, "Politics and the English Language"
Amy Tan, "Mother Tongue"
Dinty Moore, *The Truth of the Matter*

Brenda Miller and Susanne Antonetta, Tell It Slant
Joan Didion, "Why I Write"
Susan Hall, "Now and Then: The Binary Dimension of the Authorial Voice" in Numero Cinq
James Baldwin, "Letter from a Region in My Mind"
Eula Biss, "Relations"

Poetry

Robert Haas, A Little Book on Form: An Exploration into the Formal Imagination of Poetry
Arthur Poulín, ed. Contemporary American Poetry
James Longenbach, The Resistance to Poetry
Paul Fussell, Aesthetics/Craft/Theory: Poetic Meter and Poetic Form
Dana Gioia, Can Poetry Matter
Richard Hugo, The Triggering Town
Melissa Kwansy, ed. Toward the Open Field: poets on the art of poetry 1800-1950
Robert Bly, A Wrong Turning in American Poetry
James Longenbach, The Art of the Poetic Line
Denise Levertov, "Some Notes on Organic Form" and "On the Function of the Line."
Robert Pinsky, The Situation of Poetry: Contemporary Poetry and Its Traditions